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Washington, 12 January (WashingtonTV)—The **US Commission on International Religious Freedom** on Tuesday condemned what it called the “sham trial” of seven Baha’is in Iran, which began today.

Leonard Leo, chairman of the bipartisan commission, expressed deep concern about the fate of the five men and two women, who could face the death penalty for several of the charges against them.

“It appears that the Iranian government has already predetermined the outcome, and is once again using its courts as an instrument of religious persecution in blatant violation of international human rights law,” he said in a statement.